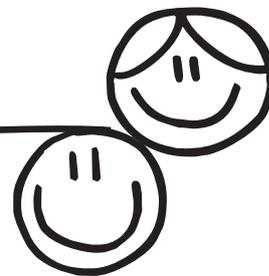


Intermediate



UNIT: FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT 2/9

Suggested Structure

Introduction - All Kids

Sunday School Assembly

(May include opening prayer, prayer requests, music, testimonies)

Encourage the senior students to lead the music, prayer and/or share what God is doing their life.

Summary of previous lesson – ask the children

Introduce lesson topic

Lesson - Break into class groups

Read through lesson content using discussion questions

(Read story or scripture from **children's bible*** or appropriate bible)

Discuss and breakdown as necessary

Craft/Activity

Finish

Summary of lesson

Cleanup, collate craft work, name and put in children's/class portfolio's or other

Supervised free play, outdoor games or board games if meeting isn't finished

Please leave feedback with your SS coordinator.

Lesson Title

Fruit of the Spirit - Joy

Lesson Purpose and Themes

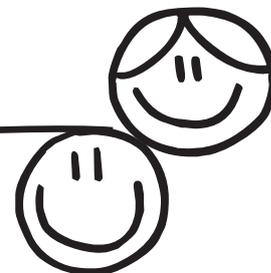
To gain an understanding of the Fruits of the Spirit and learn about Joy. Themes: Choices, Spiritual Joy.

Lesson Content

Galatians 5: 22-23 *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, 23. Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.*

* Show the children where the stories are in the bible. The children need to know where the stories come from and that they are not 'fairy tales'.

Intermediate



UNIT: FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT 2/9

Joy is like an everlasting river of beautiful clean water; it's always there for us but we have to get down and drink from it to enjoy it. If we want God's everlasting joy we have to be with God and spend time with him.

God provides things for us to enjoy every moment of every day however we have to make the choice to see those things and enjoy them. We often let ourselves miss the wonderful things God has given us because we're distracted by a small problem.

We can't always have everything we want but there is still always something to enjoy.

This nursery rhyme highlights how easily we get distracted by little things and miss the great things that are in front of us.

Pussy Cat, Pussy Cat, where have you been?

I've been to London to visit the Queen.

Pussy Cat, Pussy Cat, what you do there?

I frightened a little mouse under her chair.

The Cat was in the palace with the Queen and only saw a mouse.

Luke 10: 21 *At that time Jesus, full of joy through the Holy Spirit, said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. Yes, Father, for this is what you were pleased to do.*

As a child of God you have been given eyes to see wonderful things on earth.

Spiritual Joy:

Real Spiritual Joy is more than just the moments we enjoy in life. When you receive the Spirit you get a joy that lasts forever because. Spiritual joy comes from knowing Jesus, being with Jesus and knowing the truth about life. Really sad things can happen in life but the Spirit will always help us get through because we know that there is more to life than what we see now.

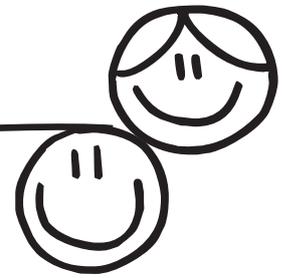
Discussion Questions

1. What is joy?
2. When do you feel most happy?
3. How would you feel if you had the opportunity to meet the Queen?
4. What things have taken away your joy?

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Intermediate

UNIT: FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT 2/9



5. Did you manage to be happy again? How?
6. What does eternal mean?
7. How can you have eternal joy?

Activities/Craft

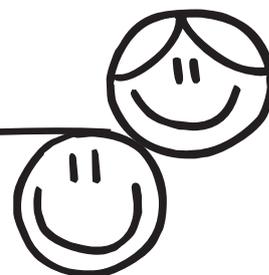
- **Joy is infectious.** Have the students sit in a circle facing each other and tell them they are not allowed to smile or laugh. When someone cracks they are to then try and make everyone else laugh but they are not allowed to leave their seat. Afterwards discuss what made them laugh. Was it just hearing someone else laugh or did they do something funny. We can help give others joy just by being happy.
- **List of the Goods.** Have the children write down a list of all the wonderful things that have happened to them this week that gave them joy or could've given them joy if they hadn't been distracted. Then have them write a prayer thanking Jesus for all their happiness.
- **Testimonies of Overcoming.** Often we can be brought down by sad things but whether we have the Spirit or not Jesus can help us overcome this. Share testimonies about things they have overcome.

For term projects discuss with other teachers prior to the lesson what you would like to do and how you would like to do it. You may also come up with other ideas more suitable to your group and set up.

- Term Project - **Fruit Mobiles.** Use coloured foam to make fruit mobiles. Draw up a few templates for the children to outline and cut out. Use orange foam and brown texta to put dimples all over the Orange. Write 'Joy' with a nice marker or black texta. When finished punch a whole through the top so it can be strung from a coat hanger or ceiling with the other fruits as they are made. You could also make mobiles out of pipe cleaners or cardboard.
- Term Project - **Fruit Softies.** Use different coloured felt to make nine pieces of fruit over the term. Cut out the shape of fruit (front and back), carefully sew together with a thick cotton or similar and stuff with cotton wool or old material. Have the children use fabric pens to write the name of this lessons topic on it. Collect string bags or orange bags to put all the fruit in and at the end of the term they will have a full bag of fruit. Discuss with the other teachers

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UNIT: FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT 2/9

whether you want to make one each lesson or do a couple every second.

Use as a guide so you don't double up on fruit: apple - love, orange - joy, peach - peace, banana - forbearance, strawberry - gentleness, pear - goodness, grapes - faithfulness, mango - meekness and lemon - self-control.

- **Power Verse** Galatians 5: 22-23 *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, 23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.*

This is the 'Power Verse' for the term. Have the children write it down or stick a copy of it in their folders. Each lesson go over this verse and have the children explain what fruits they have learned about.

- **Sing.** 'I've got the Joy Joy Joy Joy down in my Heart'.
- **Prayer/Devotions.** At the end of the lesson have the kids pray for each other about what they have learned, the week ahead, their pastors and anything else they might like to pray for.
- See filing cabinet and craft books for additional activities or create your own.

Feedback

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